

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Peter de Groot et al. Art Unit : 2877
Serial No. : 10/053,106 Examiner : Hwa S. Lee
Filed : November 2, 2001
Title : HEIGHT SCANNING INTERFEROMETRY METHOD AND APPARATUS
INCLUDING PHASE GAP ANALYSIS

MAIL STOP RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Applicants submits the reference listed on the attached form PTO-1449. Applicants also submit the following disclosure regarding prior art, reference to which is also made on the attached form PTO-1449.

Applicants disclose that prior to inventing the invention claimed in the present application, the assignee, Zygo Corporation, sold prior art height-scanning interferometers that calculated coherence and phase profiles, and calculated an experimental phase gap map based on the difference between the coherence and phase profiles. Rather than filter the experimental phase gap map as disclosed in the present application, the prior art height-scanning interferometers created a histogram for the different values of the experimental phase gap in the experimental phase gap map. The histogram showed which particular value was most common in the experimental phase gap map. That most common value was then selected as the theoretical phase gap and used to determine a height profile of the test surface.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY FIRST CLASS MAIL

I hereby certify under 37 CFR §1.8(a) that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage on the date indicated below and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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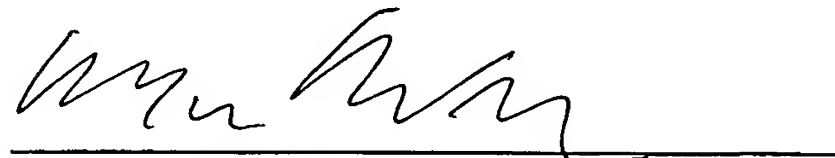
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Attorney's Docket No.: 09712-132001 / Z-293

This filing is being made with the filing of a Request for Continued Examination. No fee is required.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 1/9/04



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***See attached document certifying that Marc M. Wefers has limited recognition to practice before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office under 37 C.F.R. § 10.9(b).**

Substitute Form PTO-1449

U.S. Department of Commerce
Patent and Trademark Office

Attorney's Docket No.

09712-132001

Application No.

10/053,106

**Information Disclosure Statement
by Applicant**

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Applicant

Peter de Groot et al.

Filing Date

November 2, 2001

Group Art Unit

2877

U.S. Patent Documents

Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document Number	Publication Date	Patentee	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate
	AA	6,185,315	02/06/2001	Schmucker et al.	382	108	
	AB						
	AC						
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						
	AJ						
	AK						

Foreign Patent Documents or Published Foreign Patent Applications

Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document Number	Publication Date	Country or Patent Office	Class	Subclass	Translation	
							Yes	No
	AL							
	AM							
	AN							
	AO							
	AP							

Other Documents (include Author, Title, Date, and Place of Publication)

Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document
	AQ	Prior art described in attached Information Disclosure Statement
	AR	
	AS	
	AT	

Examiner Signature

Date Considered

EXAMINER: Initials citation considered. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.